

H. Brooke

THE
INTERESTS
OF
IRELAND

CONSIDERED, STATED,

AND

RECOMMENDED,

Particularly with RESPECT to

Inland Navigation.

D U B L I N :

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M DCC LIX.





TO THE
RIGHT HONOURABLE
THE
Lord Viscount CHARLEMONT.

MY LORD,

THE Subject of the following Essay is, next to our Religion and Liberties, of the highest Importance

DEDICATION.

portance to this Kingdom, and is, further, of worthy and weighty Concern to every Part of the yet known World. It is, therefore, addressed where those Interests are most nearly united, in the best Lover of *Ireland*, and warmest Friend of Mankind.

YOUR infant Studies and early Travels must, in some Measure, have prevented your Acquaintance with the Country, for whose Benefit those Studies and Travels were principally intended : And, when
You

DEDICATION.

You imported to Us a living Collection of All that was valuable, from Abroad; Sick-ness came, like a Cloud, between You and your Country, and did not permit Her to perceive, with due Force and Attention, either the Warmth of the Influence or Brightness of the Example.

I beg Leave, on this Occasion, to assume the Honour of recommending a greater Intimacy between your Lordship and this Nation, and of opening,

DEDICATION.

ing, to your Eye, some Avenues that lead to the Welfare of *Ireland*, which have lain, for many Ages, undiscerned or untrodden.

I wish not to have it concealed from your Lordship, that the Eyes of your Country are now turned upon You ; and that She expects all the Benefits and Advantages, at your Hands, that Genius can comprehend, Benevolence dictate, and Power promote.

THAT

DEDICATION.

THAT your Lordship may
long continue the Delight of
your Friends, the Ornament
of *Ireland*, and an Honour to
the human Species, is the
warmest Wish of,

MY LORD,

the most grateful,

most faithful,

and most affectionate

of your Servants,

H. BROOKE.

1840

John W. ...
and on ...
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THE
INTERESTS
OF
IRELAND
CONSIDERED, &c.

FROM the Beginning of the
World, the Efforts of Man-
kind, for the procuring of
Riches, have yet only amounted to
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two simple *Means*, the first by *the Labour of their own Hands*, the second by *employing the Hands of Others*.

NATIONS, like Men, have, therefore, but two *Ways* whereby they may worthily acquire Wealth, the First by *Industry*, the Second by *Merchandizing*, the first by the *Labour and Art of their own Hands*, the second by making Advantage of *the Art and Labour of Others*. Nations, therefore, like Men, may be *Manufacturers*, or *Merchants*.

Now, as nothing is *Wealth*, but so far as it is *valuable*, nor any Thing valuable, but so far as it is *useful*, it must necessarily follow that the Wealth of this World consists
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in what artificial Industry can produce from it for the Well-being of Man.

THOUGH Vanity may esteem Gold for its Glitter, though Avarice may hoard it, and regard it as the *End*, not the *Means* of Enjoyment; should it please Heaven to cover the Earth with a Shower of the Metal so universally coveted, it would instantly become a useless and undesirable Nuisance.

As Money, however, is useful, so far also is it valuable, and it is worthily esteemed Wealth in a two-fold Capacity. The Material, which is ductile and durable, is of intrinsic Value, as it serves, in numberless Instances, to furnish the Means of

Convenience and Comfort to Man. It hath also a relative Value, as a Pawn, or Promise, for the return of such a Quantity of Commodities as People have consented to give in Exchange.

THE relative Value of Money is, however, merely arbitrary, and may be encreased, abated, or abolished at pleasure. For, in process of Time, as the Circulation of Metals by Weight succeeded to Barter, and the Circulation of Coin to that of Metals by Weight ; a higher Refinement hath been further invented for adding Motion and Extension to Industry and Commerce. Paper, a material in itself of no manner of Value, was substituted as a Medium of such Circulation, and, by the common Credit which was

was given to certain Marks and Signatures, made greater Dispatch in Business and Payments, was more readily transferred, more securely preserved, and more easily recovered, when stolen or mislaid, than any Species of Coin or other Contrivance.

FROM hence it is evident that the *Credit*, which is given to any Medium of Circulation, is that alone which constitutes the *Value* thereof. That Shells, Parchment, Paper, Leather, or any Kind of Material, to which such Credit should be annexed by common Consent, would be of equal Estimation with gold and silver Coin. That a Person, who had a Note for two Million sterling on the Bank of *England* or *Amsterdam*, would not exchange that
single

single Scrap of Paper for all the Specie that is current throughout the Kingdom of *Ireland*. And, that, if Trade and Commerce could be carried on, Art and Industry duly encouraged, Superfluities equally vended, and Wants equally supplied, without the Intervention of Money; though all the Coin in the World should be instantly melted down, the World would not be one Penny the poorer.

It is, therefore, the MANUFACTURER, alone, who raises and produces whatever real Wealth this World contains. But, if Manufacturers, like some Kinds of Shell-fish, were confined to certain Bounds, beyond which they could neither receive nor communicate Nourishment,
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the World must have still continued in its primitive Ignorance and Want.

HERE, then, the MERCHANT is happily introduced, for, though he adds nothing to the Wealth of the World, that Wealth, in a great measure would prove useless and insignificant, if the Merchant did not dispense it, and, by such Dispensation, promote a Succession of the like Manufactures.

MEN and Countries have their several Advantages and Defects. God suffers not any distinct Climate upon Earth to be answerable to the Wants and Desires of its Inhabitants. Different Men are endowed with different Talents and Powers, insufficient

cient in many Respects, though superfluous, in others, to their own Occasions. Different Countries are also endowed with different Productions, superfluous in many Respects to the Natives, though necessary or desirable for the Well-being of Foreigners.

Now these alternate Qualities, of Deficiency and Abundance, at once invite and impel all Men and all Countries to claim and to impart that reciprocal Assistance which is denominated Commerce. Each gives what he can spare, each receives what he wants; the Exchange is to the mutual Advantage of all Parties. And, could a Method be found out, for encouraging Manufacturers to persevere in their Industry and im-
prove

prove in their Arts, by a quick Sale and Conveyance of all their Redundancies, neither Want nor Superfluity could find place upon Earth.

FROM the Premisses it must follow, that Three cardinal Articles are indispensably necessary to the Welfare of Mankind, a MANUFACTURER to produce Wealth, a MERCHANT to dispense it, and a PASSAGE for conveying it between Party and Party; and, that any Two of the Three would be useless to the World without the other.

To this Truth, God and Nature bear Witness from the Beginning, and have pointed out and dictated both the Means and consequent Benefits,

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nefits, if Man had but the Attention to observe, and the Application to pursue his own Advantage.

If Earth had been ordained to occupy the Places of the Ocean and intervening Seas and Lakes; the several Defarts, Mountains, and Marshes, together, with the Difficulty, Danger, Toil, and Expence of Land-Carriage, must have utterly precluded all Commerce and Communication to any considerable Extent. Nothing but instant Want could, in such a Case, have excited to occasional Industry. All Art would have remained in Embryo, or, if here and there brought forth, would have found neither Encouragement nor Example for Improvement, and a World, without Commerce, Industry,

try and Art, must have nearly continued in the Want, Ignorance, and Barbarism of the inland Natives of *Africa*, *America*, and other Regions, who are beholden to their Form, and some Glimmerings of Reason, for the Superiority that they appear to retain over Brutes.

BUT, God, who framed Mankind for Society and Acts of mutual and extensive Benevolence, hath given them Means and Incitements for the Exercise of those various and beneficent Talents, with which He hath endowed Each, for the Advantage of Others.

WHILE he appears to separate the several Nations of the Earth, from each other, by the Intervention of

Seas, Lakes and Rivers; he hath actually and intimately united them thereby.

WATER serves to the Art and Navigation of Man, as Air serves to the Wings of the Feathered Species. It is the easy and speedy Medium, the ready Conduit and Conveyance, whereby all Redundancies are carried, and all Wants supplied. It makes Man, as it were, a Denizen of every Country on the Globe. It shortens every Distance, and brings the remotest Regions to Neighbourhood and Converse. It carries and communicates the Knowledge, the Virtues, Manufactures, and Arts of each Climate to all. It gives new Springs and Motives to Industry, Action, and Invention. It gives a
general

general Importance to the meanest Manufacturer. It makes Man to be literally the Lord of the Creation, it gives him an Interest in whatever is done upon Earth, the Productions of every Region, and the Tribute of every Nation.

NEITHER did God, by the Medium of Seas and Lakes alone, introduce, as it were, the Shores of all Lands to each other. He further opened the Avenues of this beneficent Communication into the Bosoms of many Countries, by Rivers, which He made navigable for Hundreds of Leagues. And, almost, to all Countries He appointed the like Capacity, by Millions of convenient Currents and Streams; that something might be left to the Ingenuity

genuity and Application of the Creature, for perfecting by Art what was only prepared by Nature; and that Man, following the Example and Precedent of his benevolent Creator, might, in Time, by the Effect of his own Skill and Labour, knit into one Family, and weave into one Web, the Affinity and Brotherhood of all Mankind.

HERE, then, is a Matter altogether unaccountable.

MAN hath received, by the sole Means and Medium of Navigation, whatever real Benefit he enjoyeth upon Earth; all Knowledge, all Science, Arts, Crafts, Inventions, all the Conveniencies, Comforts, Delights, and Elegancies of Life, have
been

been produced, promoted, propagated, and communicated thereby. GOD himself provided this Medium of Blessings to Human-kind, and prepared the Means, and pointed the Method, for making the same of universal Benefit and Extent, as clearly as the Heavens declare his own Glory, as intelligibly, as Signs can signify, or Words can speak. And yet, even in *Europe*, the polite Parent of *Greece* and *Rome*, the Seat of Liberty, and Letters, of Elegance, and Arts, this Blessing and Benefit of Inland Navigation, so obviously offered, and of such infinite Import, hath lain wholly dormant, unregarded, and unattended to, till within the narrow Term of these two last Centuries.

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THE World, from its Beginning to that late Period, can produce but one Instance of, any Nation who derived to themselves the Advantages, so plainly appointed of Nature, by opening a Navigation into the Bosom of their Country.

THAT Nation is *China*, and on that Account, they boast, with great Appearance of Justice, that the World hath been comparatively blind to their own Interests, and that *Europe* has but lately opened one Eye.

THE Country, of this opulent People, extends from under the Tropic of Cancer to about Thirteen Hundred Miles North; and
therefore,

therefore, contains within itself all the Variety of Climate, and Degrees of Heat and Cold, that are requisite for the several Productions upon Earth. Inspired, by some Forecast or Intelligencer not imparted to the rest of Mankind, they quartered their vast Continent into Canals of several Thousands of Leagues in Extent; and it is affirmed, that, at this Day, these Canals contain above Ten Million of Persons who daily and nightly navigate their Waters.

THESE Canals serve as Links or Chords to the grand Community of the *Chinese*, they bind Region to Region, House to House, and Man to Man, and hold the Whole as one System or Family together. This

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great Kingdom is, thereby, become as one City, and the Canals, as so many Streets, through which Plenty is diffused by Commerce to every Part. If any Art or useful Invention commences or receives Improvement in any Place of *China*, it is immediately conveyed to every Part thereof, for Imitation and Advancement. No Portion of this wide Continent lies waste or uncultivated, because the Canals are as so many Markets brought to every Man's Door, and, by the perpetual Demand of whatever is saleable, incite the Natives to exert themselves in providing all the Redundancies they possibly can, that they may derive Wealth to themselves by supplying the Wants of others. Thus, throughout the expanded Dominion
of

of *China*, nothing is wasted, nothing lost, nothing superfluous, nothing wanting. All are employed, active, industrious, ingenious, and thriving. Their Canals are to them, what Seas are to the rest of the Globe. They are thereby become, as a World within themselves, sufficient to their own Happiness and Occasions. And *China* is now reputed to contain about One Hundred and Twenty Million of prospering Inhabitants.

THE World saw, and was surprised at the Prosperity of the *Chinese*, but ascribed it all to a peculiar Genius for Industry and Ingenuity in that People; nor once animadverted on the truly efficient Cause, without

which neither that Industry nor Ingenuity could subsist.

FOR Proof, let us suppose the People of *China* at once deprived of their Canals, and thereby deprived of their Medium for Correspondence and Commerce. The Inhabitants, of Regions divided by so many Hundreds of Miles, would, thereupon, instantly become Strangers to each other. The Growths and Manufactures, peculiar to one Climate, would no more be exchanged for the Growths and Manufactures peculiar to another. Redundancies would perish here, and Wants, there, remain unsupplied. Art and Industry would cease to cultivate what was no longer demanded. Each would grow solicitous to purvey for the bare Support

port of Existence alone, without regard to further Convenience or Gratification. And this illustrious People would gradually degenerate to the Sloth, Ignorance, and Want, of the other inland Inhabitants of the unnavigated Parts of the Earth.

THE Seven United Provinces of the Netherlands are more literally and firmly united, by their Canals for Inland Navigation, than by any Connexion of Law or System of Policy.

ABOUT the Year 1580, these Provinces, having confederated for the Recovery of their Liberties, cast off the *Spanish* Yoke, and, being hemmed in, from the Continent, by populous and powerful Neighbours, they

they found themselves for ever precluded from any Prospect of advancing their Fortune by Land. The Sea, however, lay open to their Views and Excursions; they seized on this Element as their only hopeful Inheritance; they commenced Merchants, they became Inhabitants of the Deep; by Commerce they gradually arrived at Empire, and assumed the chief Propriety and Principality of the Ocean.

WHILE their Trade was yet in its Minority, the interior Parts of those Provinces began to envy the Exterior, and wished equally to partake the Advantage of a Navigation, by which alone they could propose to acquire Power and Opulence. Without any Reflexion on the Example

ample of the *Chinese*, Necessity urged, on one Side, and Nature invited, on the other, to open to themselves a Passage into the Ocean. Their Country was flat, and replenished with Lakes and Rivers. They cut, quartered, and divided it, by as many Canals as answer to the Ducts and Veins in the Human Body, for the Dispensation of Life and Nourishment. By these Means, those Seven Provinces became, at length, as a great and extended Metropolis to the Universe; and through their Canals, as through paved and spacious High-Ways, the World resorted with all its Wealth. In Time, the Soil, with the utmost Industry, became insufficient for the Subsistence of One Third of the Multitude of its Inhabitants; but
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their Canals were ready Outlets and Inlets for Supplies; through these they imported the Superfluities of all Nations; and, having satisfied their own Occasions, they sold out the Remainder to the Wants of Mankind for Double the principal Cost of the Whole.

THESE Benefits they derived from their Canals, as MERCHANTS; nor did they derive less from the same Canals, as MANUFACTURERS. The perpetual Market, which these Canals had opened to the surrounding World, invited the Industrious and Ingenious of all other Nations, to gather, and reside, where they were assured of an immediate Demand for all the Products of their Art and Labour.

Hence,

Hence, their Manufactures, of broad Cloths, Camblets, Serges, Druggets, Linens, Diapers, Damasks, Velvets, Sattins, Silks, gold and silver Brocades, Ribbands, Laces, Tapestries, earthen Wares, Marbles, Sugars, Oils, Drugs, Cordage, Pipes, Paper, &c. &c. soon grew into universal Estimation and Request. So encouraged, and so incited, neither the Lame, nor the Blind, nor the Maimed sat unemployed. Every Child was taught it's Trade, from the Moment it could apply it's little Hands to a regular Motion, and brought to the Parents vast Sums, in Lieu of an infinite Variety of Trifles and Toys which were dispersed among the Idle of the other Children of Men.

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THE DAY before Mr. PITT was called to the Ministry of *Great-Britain*, *France* was looked upon as the most powerful of any Nation upon Earth; the surrounding World beheld them with an Eye of jealous Apprehension; and their Ambition and Aim at universal Monarchy has been the Dread and the Theme of half a Century among their Neighbours. And yet the Eyes of Those are open, though their Memory may have failed, who have seen *France*, as they now see *Ireland*, a poor, impotent, idle, and despised People.

LEWIS the 14th, a very little King, till he acquired a new Title, by making a *great Nation*, saw, envied, and imitated the Policies of the *seven Provinces*. He wanted, indeed,

indeed, the Advantages of a level Soil, for inland Navigation, which his Neighbours the *Dutch* possessed; but his enterprizing Genius and indefatigable Application were raised to the Difficulties with which he encountered. He banked, opened, deepened, and cleared many Rivers, which wanted nothing further to be made capable of Navigation to a great Extent into the Country. To the vast *Canal de Briare*, begun by his Grand-father *Harry* (the first Attempt of that Kind in *Europe*) he added Those of *Orleans*, *Calais*, *Mardyck*, &c. with that stupendous One of *Languedoc*, which he carried through Hills and Rocks, over Rivers, and under Mountains, from the Mediterranean Sea to the Atlantic Ocean.

It is needless to repeat the Advantages that then did, and must ever necessarily ensue, in consequence of such Measures. *Merchants* and *Manufacturers*, like *Pyramus* and *Thisbe*, want nothing but the removal of envious Obstacles, to meet, and to multiply a similiary Progeny. *France*, speedily, though insensibly, expanded, and arose to an amazing and fearful Height of Wealth and Power. Her infinite Variety, of fine Wares and Manufactures, still lye ready to be exported in her own or other Bottoms, from the inmost Regions of her great Continent to all Parts of the Globe. And though she should cease to be a Merchant, and that *England* did not leave her a single Ship on the Ocean, She
would

would be powerful and prosperous by her INLAND NAVIGATION.

Now, if these three Countries, of *China, France, and the united Provinces*, are, confessedly, the most populous, powerful, wealthy, active, artful, and industrious, of any in the Universe; I ask, why are they so? How came they to be so populous, whence have they their Power, where got they their Wealth, what incited them to this Action, what inspired them with this Art, what moved them to this Industry? Did all these Advantages drop down to them from the Moon, or was it Chance or some periodical and peculiar Fatality, that has so wonderfully blessed these great Favourites of Fortune

tune? They are the only Countries, throughout the World, that have done any Thing considerable toward an inland Navigation; and we find them, of all Others, the most populous and prosperous. We also find that this *Prosperity* and *Navigation* bear equal Date, and that they commenced, increased, and still go Hand in Hand, together.

IT is here, then, that the Experience of these three great Nations bear unquestionable Testimony to the *Truths* of the Premises, *That Industry is the Parent of the Wealth of this World. That no Man's Industry is sufficient to his own Occasions. That the mutual Assistance denominated Commerce is, therefore, necessary to the well-being of*

of all People. That the reciprocal Advantage of this Commerce consists in supplying mutual *Wants* with mutual Redundancies. That this Commerce, however, cannot be carried on without a Medium for the Conveyance of such Supplies. That such a Medium, by Land, even where it is practicable, is tedious, toilsome, expensive, extremely discouraging, and cannot be pushed to any considerable Extent or Effect. That God, however, hath opened for the Purpose, an easy, speedy and universal Medium of Seas, Lakes, and Rivers, Part of which he hath left unnavigable, that Man might finish, by Art, what Nature had prepared, and contribute, in some Degree to his own Advantages. That, accordingly, China, France, Holland, and England of late, have endeavoured to pursue the Path so divinely appointed,

appointed, and that Power, Wealth, and Prosperity, have flowed in upon them, in Proportion as they have opened the Medium of Water-carriage for its Reception. And, that Causes, which have produced Effects, without Variation, from the Beginning of the World to the present Period, must be presumed to produce the like Effects, through all Countries and Ages to the End of Time.

I R E L A N D, by being an Island, has the Advantage of all Continents; and, of all Islands, She is the most happily situated for the Approach of Merchants. She must, consequently, exceed the World, in the Demand and Exportation of her Manufactures, whenever She can equal Others in her Industry and Art.

Art. Her whole Coast is incircled with as fine Bays, Havens, and Harbours as any in the Universe. She has no Straits nor winding Channels to make Access difficult. All Winds lead directly to and from her Shores, and invite Ships from all Countries into her Ports.

THUS far, GOD, by Nature, hath been superlatively beneficent to *Ireland*. Neither hath He stopt here. He hath more than half finished the Work of that Prosperity, to which He invites her, by a Plenitude of the finest Rivers, Lakes, and Streams, which water her highest Grounds, and pour from her loftiest Mountains; so that, nothing, now, is wanting, but the Labour of a few of her own Hands, to accomplish
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the Navigation that Nature has so amply prepared, and, by dividing her Soil, in the several requisite Directions, from Sea to Sea, and Port to Port, to make her the THOROUGH-FARE AND MART OF THE WORLD.

HAD the Bounties, of a Patriot-Parliament, which, for twenty Years past, have been so solicitously and affectionately applied to the reviving, supporting, and fostering, of many unprospering Branches of the Growths and Manufactures of this Country; had these Bounties, I say, been applied to this UNIVERSAL ROOT of all Industry and Art, an INLAND NAVIGATION; all good Consequences must have flowed

flowed from the ONE THING
NEEDFUL.

BUT, it is not yet too late; nay, it is begun, and in great Forwardness. That very Parliament hath sowed the Seed of our assured Prosperity, and it is already over Ground, and ripening to Harvest.

I would not, however, deceive the meanest of my Countrymen. Though the Navigation, so much wanted, so indispensably previous to the Prosperity of this Country, should be compleated To-morrow, *Great-Britain, France, and Holland*, will yet have Means, of acquiring Power and Opulence, which *Ireland* must not look for.

Great-Britain, France, and Holland, are Merchants; to which national Profession two Articles are previously necessary; the first of which is an absolute Independence by Land; and the second an independent Dominion by Sea.

THE first great Merchant of the World was *Tyre*, the Second *Carthage*, and the Third *Alexandria*, of whose unparalleled Grandeur and immense Opulence nothing now remains, but the Memory and Example. During the Times of Gothic Ignorance, and of Turkish Antipathy to Literature and Arts, very little was done in the Way of Merchandising. Till *Venice* and *Genoa* arose on the Ocean, who were, in time, eclipsed
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by *Holland*, who is now also rivalled by *France* and *Great-Britain*.

THE incomparable Dignity, to which a People may arrive through this Profession, is attested by *Tyre*, who withstood the three first Monarchies of the World led against her, by *Nebuchadnezar*, and *Alexander the Great*; and it is further witnessed by *Carthage*, who was very hardly subdued by the fourth Monarchy of the *Romans*. Neither is this to be wondered at, if we do but reflect on an indisputable Maxim, that *the Lord of the Ocean is the Lord of all Lands*.

THE Dignity, however, which is attained by Merchandizing, is obnoxious to infinite Envy and Rivalship,

ship, and, therefore, hath not proved of any very durable Advantage to the Professors: While the Manufacturer is unenvied, carested, and encouraged, and applied to, and rewarded, by all Mankind.

Ireland, therefore, has no Manner of Reason to regret her being precluded from the precarious Profession of a MERCHANT; while, through an inland Navigation, She may attract and perpetuate to herself all the Happiness that the Wealth of the whole World can yield; by the reputable and unenvied Profession of a MANUFACTURER.

China, neither is, nor ever was, nor ever will be a Merchant. Yet,
by

by the Advantages of Art and Industry, upheld, actuated, and propagated by her inland Navigation, She is the most populous and opulent of any Country upon Earth. She is the Queen of Manufacturers, She is fought to by all People, but disturbed by none. And is the only Nation, which, from Time immemorial, has preserved her State and her Policy unchanged to this Day.

Now, as *Ireland* lies, incomparably, more obvious to the Inter-course of the World, and may also open many Thorough-fares, from Sea to Sea, for an inland Navigation, of which *China* is not capable. Thus circumstanced, I say, with tenfold the Advantages that *China*
can

can boast, what can hinder her from attaining, at least, an equal Prosperity?

THIS Prospect, God be praised, is now opened to our View. The NAVIGATION, so desirable, hath, for several Years, employed the Heads, and lain at the Hearts of the Well-wishers of *Ireland*.

AFTER some Attempts, near our Coasts, or by narrow Channels, an Undertaking hath lately been enterprized of opening a Canal for Vessels of a hundred and fifty Tun Burthen, from *Dublin* to the *Shannon*, and from thence to the Sea, by *Limeric*. And this stupendous Work was originally projected, and is now actually

actually brought into Agitation and Effect, by a PATRIOT NAME that will be reverable to our Posterity.

THE Diffidence, or rather Despair, that has been generally conceived of the Success of this Undertaking, is not to be wondered at.

A few Adventures of the like Nature had formerly been made, and large Hopes conceived thereof, and larger Sums expended thereon; but, through some unlucky Defects, in Point of Capacity, or Probity, the Expectations of the Public were wholly defeated.

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FROM these Disappointments People were taught to fear and surmise that the like would at all Times ensue. That similiary Causes would for ever entail a Train of unhappy Effects on *Ireland*, and her public Funds be converted into Jobb and private Property.

To prevent the Evils apprehended, our Commissioners inquired, abroad, for Persons already skilled and experienced in such Matters, and most approved for their Capacity and Integrity in the Execution; and, accordingly, in the Years 1755 and 1756, Mr. *Omer* and Mr. *Ockenden* were called over to this Kingdom.

WITHIN

WITHIN this very small Term, the Navigation of several of our Rivers, as well as that of the GRAND CANAL, has commenced and been carried on with a Success and Rapidity that is admirable and still increasing.

MR. *Ockenden*, on the *Black-water*, has cleared one Mile of River and compleated upward of three Miles of Canal, making four Miles of Navigation, within which He has finished two double Locks of wrought Marble 160 Feet in Length from the upper to the lower Gates.

ON the River *Nore* Mr. *Ockenden* has also compleated a Navigation of near five Miles from *Kilkenny* down

to *Bennet's-Bridge*, in which He has built a Stone Aquæduct that conveys a Stream under the Canal, as also three Guard-Locks, and five Double-Locks of wrought Marble and of the same Dimensions with those on the *Blackwater*, the Gates, when open being 21 Feet wide, and capable of receiving Vessels of 200 Ton Burden.

ON the *Shannon* near *Limeric*, Mr. *Ockenden* met with Difficulties that required extraordinary Address, Ingenuity, and Perseverance to conquer. A large Bog of 40 Feet in Depth from the Summit to the Bottom of the Canal, which, however, he has already reduced to a Depth of about 25 Feet, and, thereby, rendered it practicable beyond all Doubt. Add
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to this, a Morafs covered with Water every Spring-Tide, and, a Hill 30 Feet in Depth, partly composed of folid Marble, not to be moved but by the Force of Gun-Powder.

NOTWITHSTANDING these Obftacles, at firft judged infurmountable, he has cut a Mile of Canal through the faid Morafs and Hill, whereby, he has obtained Three Miles of Navigation; and, under the City where the Canal joins the Tide-water of the *Shannon*, he has built a large fingle Lock of wrought Marble 30 Feet in Height from the Foundation to the Top of the Walls, during which Operation, he was obliged to bay out a Head of Water which, at the Rife of the Tide, was 23 Feet in Depth.

BEFORE

BEFORE the Year 1756, Mr. *Omer* began his first Lock at *Banagher*, of a Firmness and Model till then unknown in this Kingdom. Since that Time, he has compleated Five Locks on the *Shannon*, and, thereby, opened an uninterrupted Navigation of 60 Miles in Length.

BEFORE Mr. *Omer* came over, an impotent Undertaking had been long carried on toward making the *Boyne* navigable from *Drogheda* to *Trim*, but, all the Locks proved insufficient, and the Channels too narrow for Boats of any Burden. As Mr. *Omer* proceeds, he is obliged to undo the former Works, and, in about 3 Years he has compleated 10 Locks, beside several Guard Gates between
Drogheda

Drogheda and *Trim*, and opened a Navigation of about 16 Miles.

ON the River *Lagan*, within the same Term, He has also finished 8 Locks of hewen Stone, and compleated a Navigation of about 6 Miles between *Belfast* and *Lisbourn*.

THE GRAND CANAL was generally affirmed to be impracticable for several Reasons; first, on Account of the Rocks of *Clondalken* near *Dublin*; 2dly, of the long Hills of *Sallens* and *Downings*; and 3dly, of the high Quaggs of the Bog of *Allen*, the very Attempt of which was laughed at as absurd and ridiculous.

To remove these Objections, Mr. Omer, in May 1757, first opened
the

the Line through a Part of the Bog, where a Bird could scarce have Footing; where the Labourers, who stood on Planks, were in frequent Danger of being swallowed up; and, where I have seen Poles to a Depth of near 40 Feet run down as through Water. This, however, he effectually reduced, within a few Months, by Machines of a new Contrivance, that carried Stuff of two Ton Weight over quaggy or uneven Ground where no other Carriage could pass, as also by Means of several parallel Lines and a Number of small Cuts perpendicular thereto, and the said Quagg now stands as firm and as even as a Wall.

IN the following Winter, He cut through the Rocks of *Clondalken*;
and

and he has, since, carried Works of a stupendous Capacity through the forementioned Hills, for the Bottoming of which a Machine, of a new though simple Invention, has been also contrived and approved, whereby a Man can easily raise and carry off, from any given Depth, double the Weight that he can move on level Ground by any other Carriage in Use or yet known; which Machine would undoubtedly prove of infinite Advantage, in deep Quarries, in raising Stones of the greatest Size to the highest Buildings, in loading and unloading Ships, and in the conveying of heavy Commodities to Upper-Warehouses, &c.

INDEPENDENT of the said Works,
H whereby

whereby all Doubt of the Practicability of this great Undertaking is clearly removed, Mr. *Omer* has nearly compleated Nine Miles of uninterrupted Navigation, between *Dublin* and the *Liffey*, whereon he has erected Four Bridges and built many fingle, double, and treble Aquæducts, for the discharging of Under-Water, all of the most durable and beautiful Structure; insomuch, that what he has done, in little more than Two Years, on the grand Canal, may be estimated at least tantamount to 18 Miles of finished Navigation.

It is amazing, that, in so very short a Term as Three Years, a Term scarce sufficient for the Commencement and Entrance on such
prodigious

prodigious Enterprises, that Two Men, I say, in this small Space, should nearly compleat a Navigation of One Hundred and Twenty Miles through the Body of this Kingdom, with the due Appendages of Locks, Bridges, and Aquæducts, whose durable Beauty must attest the Skill of the Operators to the End of Time, and all this, I repeat it, with less Money than was formerly expended, in this Way, on a few insignificant and fruitless Attempts.

SHOULD these Men persevere, for a few Years more, with the same Spirit and Success, They will be Instruments in the Hands of our Parliament and Commissioners for doing the greatest of all Human Works,

that of MAKING A GREAT OF A LITTLE NATION, they will thereby intitle themselves to a National Acknowledgment, and the Names of OMER and of OKENDEN will be honourable to our Posterity.

COULD our Parliament have formed a distant Hope that their late Bounties would have been so advantageously disposed of, they would undoubtedly have doubled their Grants on the Occasion. But the Time is now arrived for the Renewal and Exertion of their Beneficence to their Country, in a Matter of the most signal Importance to her Welfare, in a Matter where a whole People demands and petitions for Happiness at their Hands.

EVERY

EVERY Objection is now vanished that has been or can be raised to the carrying a Navigation through any or every Part of this Kingdom. It has already been made evident that Art and Application can surmount every Obstacle and compass every Attempt in this Way. Nothing is now wanting, but that the present Patriot-Session should return to our Poor a Portion of that Surplus-Money which has arisen from the Intemperance and Luxuries of the Rich; this would ripen the National Harvest which they have already sown; this would reclaim the Unbeliever, and assure the Doubtful, and push every Hope into Certainty and Enjoyment.

England,

England, as well as *Holland* and *France*, at length discerns, that, independent of Power and Dominion by Sea, an Inland Navigation is the capital Advantage of every Country. Beside the River *Isis* made navigable from *Oxford* to *Cricklade* in *Wiltshire* and to *Abington* in *Berkshire*, the *Avon* in *Warwickshire* from *Stratford* to the *Severn*, the *Avon* from *Bath* to *Bristol*, the *Medway* from *Maidstone* in *Kent* up to *Tunbridge*, the *Lug* in *Herefordshire* to the *Wye*, the *Lea* from *Ware* to the *Thames*, the *Stroud*, the *Nen* and the *Wey* now in Hand, with many Others too tedious to recite, every Session is crowded with Petitioners from different Shires, praying

praying the respective Aids toward an Inland Navigation.

To prove how greatly a Country is benefitted; and Trade encreased, by an Inland Navigation, I have only to mention, that the River *Kennett* in *Berkshire*, which falls into the *Thames* at *Reading*, containing 20 Locks in 17 Miles, produces in Tolls to the Proprietors, at 4s. *per* Ton, about £. 3000 *per* Ann. and that the Tolls of the River *Aire* in *Yorkshire*, containing about 16 Locks, were formerly set at £. 500, but now are farmed to Two Tenants, at £. 6000, who further divide a Profit of about £. 2000 Yearly.

As

As I have already observ'd that *Ireland* is, of all Countries, the best situated, and, by Nature, made the most susceptible of an INLAND NAVIGATION, I shall further take Notice that, of all Countries, it is in the greatest Want thereof.

THE vast Ridges of Mountains, with the spacious Bogs and Morasses, that Quarter and divide this Kingdom, are as so *many Gulphs fixed*, over which neither Art, Commerce nor Plenty can pass to the Inhabitants; insomuch, that it would be easier and cheaper to convey a Commodity, of any Burden, to either of the *Indies*, than from many Parts of *Ireland* to others, by Land Carriage; and, in Fact, the
Natives

Natives thereof have a freer Communication with most Regions on the Globe, than with Numbers of their Countrymen.

HENCE it is that the inner Parts of this Island resemble a Defart, or, at best, are a Stock-Farm for the Propagation of Cattle, which, like Vermin on the Body that bred them, can transport themselves, without Expence to their Owners, from one Place to another.

ON the other Hand, all the Cities and Towns that are of any Consideration, for Number of People or Plenty, in *Ireland*, are situated near the Sea or some navigable River, where they may vend those Superfluities, and supply those Wants,

I from

from abroad, which they are so unhappily precluded from vending or supplying in their own Country. So that *Ireland* lies like a Carcass whose exterior Parts are kept warm by outward Applications, while the Heart and Vitals are inanimate, that should naturally communicate both Action and Nourishment to the whole System.

IN this the desperate State of our divided, inactive, and scarce enlivened Country, should our Parliament and Commissioners have the Skill and the Power to cure so inveterate and deplorable a Malady, they will approve themselves to *Ireland*, just such a Physician as *Æsculapius* is said to prove to the dismembered *Hypolitus*, when, by uniting

ning the Limbs, and clearing such Obstructions as prevented Circulation, he gave Motion, Life, Action, and Vigour to the whole Man.

As I have already affirmed that an INLAND NAVIGATION is the ONE THING NEEDFUL to the Welfare of *Ireland*; I now repeat it; and I further affirm, that, till this is effected, all the Measures of the greatest Patriots and Politicians, all the Efforts of Mankind, for compassing our Prosperity, must naturally and necessarily prove insufficient to that End.

A *MADDEN* may plant, and his *Pupils* * may water, but an INLAND NAVIGATION can alone

* Dublin Society.

procure us the Encrease; 'till this is brought to pass, all the Arts and Manufactures, that are the Offspring of THIS CAPITAL PATRIARCH of our Country, will be found as so many Exotics that will droop and fade away, whenever the Hand that cultivated and sustained them is no more.

BUT an Inland Navigation is a never dying Benefactor. It requires no Hot-Houses, nor Costs, nor Cautions, for cherishing and preserving the Arts alive. It is a Master of the Ceremonies that constitutes and confirms whatever it introduces a Proprietor of the Soil; and, Industry, by its approved and never failing Influence, becomes as the great Tree in the Vision of *Nebuchadnezzar*,

nezzar, whose Height reached to Heaven and its Branches to the Ends of the Earth, and of whose Fruits all Flesh was fed.

PEOPLE who see the Prosperity of our Neighbours of *Holland*, *France*, and *England*, ascribe the Cause and the Praise to the Industry and Ingenuity of the Inhabitants alone. They cry to the Natives of *Ireland*, as *Pharaoh* did to the *Israelites*, Ye are idle! Ye are idle! not animadverting that we may as well propose Dancing without Music, or Racing without a Prize, as Labour and Study without Wages or Reward.

WHEN the good Householder, however, walked out to the Market-place, and found Labourers loitering there,

there, when it was now toward Evening, he asked them, *why stand ye here all the Day idle?* And when they answered, *because no Man hath hired or given us Employment,* He took this for a sufficient Apology, he had Compassion upon them, and he supplied them with the divinest of all kinds of Charity, *the Means of earning their own Bread.*

INDEED, throughout the vast Extent of the inland Parts of *Ireland*, neither the Soil for Subsistence, nor the Instruments for Labour, nor the Materials for Manufacture are in the Hands of our Poor: But, were they possessed of those Advantages, they would still require the *indispensable Incitement* to all Art and Industry, a *Market* or *Demand* for the Product
of

of their Labour, and This can never be procured but by a ready and cheap Passage, between the Party who wants and the Party who can supply.

THUS, the Number of our People, the very Article which constitutes the Riches and Prosperity of other Countries, actually constitutes the Poverty and Misery of *Ireland*. In *China*, every Person is of Importance to the Welfare of the whole People, because every Person earns beyond what he consumes, and the Redundance becomes an Addition to the public Stock. In *Ireland*, five hundred Thousand of our Natives are an idle and crushing Incumbrance, on the remaining two Million, and must inevitably perish,
or,

or, by Begging and Stealing, deduct an adequate Portion from the Stock of their Country.

BUT, let Us turn aside from the present melancholy Scene, and, by looking a little forward, behold *Ireland* as already made a general Mart and Thorough-Fare by an INLAND NAVIGATION. These five hundred thousand Idlers would here find instant, profitable, and perpetual Employment, in Agriculture; in Fencing, Draining, Manuring, and reclaiming our Lands; in labouring at our Mines, in the various Operation of Metals; and in procuring and preparing Materials for a thousand different Trades, Arts, Crafts, and Manufactures. Nothing would then be superfluous,
nothing

nothing perish or decay, nothing would be waste or useleſs throughout the Kingdom. Our Stones, Loam Clay, the very Dirt of our Ditches, the Weeds of our Soil, and the Bones of our dead Cattle would be turned into Materials for a living and active Industry; and the ſame five hundred thouſand who, like a Wen or dead Member, incumbered the Body-politic, would now become the moſt vigorous and uſeful Part thereof, and, at the low Eſtimation of 5 *l.* *per* Head, would bring to their Country a net and yearly Profit of two Million and a Half Sterling.

THROUGHOUT ſuch a Kingdom,
wherein nothing would be waſte,
ſuperfluous, or uſeleſs, where a run-
K ing

ing and universal Demand would be made for every Product of Labour, and every Kind of Commodity, People would consequently improve their Lands to the highest possible Value, that they might draw from them an Encrease of Vegetation and Materials for the Employment of Arts and Manufactures. This would set them, with Vigour and Effect, to the draining of their Bogs, Lakes, and Morasses, to the reclaiming their vast Tracts of barren Heaths and waste Mountains, and to the utmost Cultivation of all other Lands. And this single Article of the Improvement of Lands would, at least, double the present natural Value of this Island, and, at a low Estimation, bring a further yearly Profit of two Million and a Half Sterling.

As

As *Ireland* is peculiarly happy in a plenteous Production of Neccessaries for Life, and, as the Inhabitants can, therefore, afford to labour cheaper than any other People, They would consequently be enabled to undersell the World, were the Way but once opened for a ready and constant Demand. This Advantage would at once set all Hands to Work; it would further prevent the yearly Exportation of Thousands of our Natives, who in the Fields of *Mars* or *Ceres*, seek for Bread and Employment Abroad, it would further add many Thousands yearly to our Numbers, by the Encouragement of Matrimony and Procreation in a Country where All, save Idlers, would be

assured of the Comforts of Life; and it would further give Us a yearly Accession of many Thousands of Foreigners, by calling to Us the Artful and Industrious, from all Nations, who would crowd to partake of such peculiar Advantages. This yearly Increase and Concourse of People could not fail, in a short Time, of adding a Sixth to our present Number of Inhabitants; and this Sixth Part, so beneficially employed, could not fail of bestowing on *Ireland* a yearly additional Profit of two Million and a Half.

I have before taken Notice that, as *Ireland* can never look for Independence by Land, or Dominion by Sea, She is, therefore, for ever precluded

cluded from being a capital Trader. She may, notwithstanding, take all the Flights she ought to desire, under the Wings of *Great-Britain*. Her Trade, in this Way, will not be unlimited, it will, however, be less expensive, and more secure; and the bare Privilege of importing her Supplies and exporting her Superfluities in her own Bottoms, together, with the Advantage of buying cheap, and selling dear in foreign Markets, may be moderately supposed to accumulate her Wealth by a further Accession of one Million and a Half yearly.

IF, in consequence of the Premises, we further reflect on the Improvements that would be made
in

in a Multitude of Arts and Crafts, fine Wares, and Manufactures, which, under such happy Influences, would undoubtedly be brought to the highest possible Perfection, and, at the same Time, be cheapened, by a Variety of Machinery invented for expediting the Labour of Man ; we cannot suppose the Increase of Wealth produced by this Article would amount to a Penny less than one Million yearly.

I NOW come to such apparent Consequences of an INLAND NAVIGATION as are the most immediately proposed thereby ; whose Connection every vulgar Eye may discern ; and, whose Benefits are the more desirable, as the Want thereof

of is perpetually and universally felt.

WE yearly pay Abroad, for the Necessaries of Life, such as Fire, Food, Cloathing, Liquors, Metals, &c. greatly upward of five hundred thousand Pounds; and this we pay independent of eight hundred thousand Pounds for Luxuries, out of which we can never propose to make a Saving, as they must, at all Times be foreign, or they would lose their Relish in *Ireland*.

Now this Island is fully pregnant with a Plenitude and Superabundance of all those Necessaries, that are begot, conceived, and saturated within her fertile Womb; but, without an INLAND NAVIGATION,
the

the MIDWIFE that should produce them to Light and to Life, they will lie useless and unborn to the End of Time.

HERE, indeed, it is happy that the Bulk of our Natives, who, by a hundred to One, are of the poorer Sort, have not yet been instructed in the delicate Sensations of distinguishing between foreign and domestic Flavour or Fineness, when the Goods are of equal Manufacture and Value. They will, therefore, buy the Products of their own Country, whenever they can have them cheaper than the like Products of another; and This must be the Case, when an Inland Navigation hath deducted 1, 2, 3, or 4 Fifths

Fifths from the Price, which, according to the Distance, and Nature of the Commodity, is the Difference between Land and Water-carriage.

FOR, the peculiar Advantage and Prerogative of Water Carriage is this, that it takes away, as it were, the Distance between Place and Place, and, in a Manner brings the Market to every Man's Door. Thus, would all Hands be instantly set to Work when assured of a Purchaser for every Effect of Labour. Some would plough and sow and reap and gather into Barns, some would bake, and Others brew; the Noise of Wheels, Reels, and Looms, of Hammers, Files, and Forges, would be heard throughout the Land. A

L hundred

hundred Quarries, and a hundred Mines of Marbles, Coals, and Metals, would then be opened, and, a new Kingdom be formed within the Womb of the Other; and though the World should concur to lay an Embargo on all our Commodities, we should, however, supply ourselves with every Necessary and Comfort of Life, we should, thereby make a clear Saving or Gain of five hundred thousand Pounds yearly, and *Ireland*, like the Spider, would spin her own Web of Happiness out of her own Bowels.

I beg the Reader's Attention to a further considerable Saving that would immediately be made by our INLAND NAVIGATION.

THE

THE Cost of every Beast of Burden throughout the Kingdom, when estimated with respect to Grass, Hay, Litter, Corn, and Attendance, together with the Timber, Tackle, and Irons of the Carriage, may be valued at the lowest, to five Pounds yearly. Now, a Boat of one hundred and fifty Ton, will at once carry the legal and common Loading of 750 Horses. But, if we take in the Consideration, that this Boat will go swifter than a carriage Horse, that it will neither tire nor fall lame, nor require Rest or baiting by Night or Day, we may surely account it tantamount to a thousand such Horses. And again, supposing that all the Boats employed, through-

out our inland Navigation, would only be tantamount to a hundred Boats of 150 Ton Burden, yet here would be a Saving of half a Million yearly; and the great Number of Horses, employed in Land-carriage, might either give Place to more profitable Cattle, or serve for the more valuable Uses of Tillage, &c.

I HAVE heard it affirmed, on very probable Calculations, that the Fishery of the Coasts of *Ireland*, if duly cultivated, would prove superior in Value to the natural Product or annual Rents of the whole Kingdom. It is, indeed, a Fund of inexhaustible Wealth, which We, through Ignorance, or Indolence, or want of Precedent or Power, altogether

gether neglect. Now, an INLAND NAVIGATION would, at once, open to Us this Mine of unabating Treasure. The Fish, caught on any of our Coasts, could then be conveyed, quite fresh and even alive, into the inmost Parts of this Island. The ready Importation, and boundless Abundance, of this nourishing and cheap Commodity, would add new Delicacies to the Tables of the Rich, and carry Plenty and Health to all our Poor. The vast Demand, that would consequently be made thereof, would encourage and excite
 • Thousands to provide Boats and Nets, with the Tackle and Implements requisite for engaging in so pleasant and gainful an Employment. The Surplus, again, that
 would

would frequently remain over our utmost Demand for Home-consumption, would naturally and necessarily excite our Fishermen to enquire and learn the Methods of curing and preserving what was left on Hand, that no Part or Product of their Labour might be lost. The Redundance of our Fish, thus cured and preserved, would again open new Channels for Trade into other Countries, from whence Wealth would Flow upon Us, in a clear and full Return, for a Commodity so universally in Request throughout the World. Again, every Meal that would be made of Fish, through this Kingdom, would save an equal Quantity of Vegetables or Flesh that, then, might be exported and
fold

fold to our Neighbours; and this two-fold Gain, when totted together, in due Process of Time, if duly promoted, could not fail of returning Yearly to *Ireland*, a clear and full Profit of One Million *Sterling*.

WHOEVER, on one Hand, beholds the present needy, impoverish'd, and desolate State of this our inactive Country; and, again, turns an Eye on the Prospect, which I have laid before him, of the same Country thronged with Inhabitants, all chearfull, skilled, and busie in an Infinity of Arts and Crafts, like a Summer's Field spread with Bees, at once tasting and extracting Sweets from their Labour. Whoever, I say, beholds two Scenes so extremely contrasted,

contrasted, will be apt to look on the Latter as an Illusion which can never exist, except in Fancy.

To this I answer, that, had any One promised the like Prosperity to our Neighbours of *France* or *Holland*, before their INLAND NAVIGATION had opened a Passage for the Admission of Industry and the Arts, such a Promise would have been laughed at as equally chimerical: And, yet, the Experience of a few Years introduced to those Countries double the Advantages I have here projected, by the same Means, for *IRELAND*.

INDEED, no Train of Consequences, in Reason, in Nature,
or

or Mathematical Demonstration, can be more evident than This. That *Buyers and Sellers will desire to meet for the Supply of their Wants and the Disposal of their Redundancies.* That, where a ready and cheap Passage is opened for the Purpose, *their Commerce will be frequent and mutually beneficial.* That *such a beneficial Commerce will necessarily incite the Laborious to Industry, and the Ingenious to Improvement, by further Study and Invention.* That *the Prosperity of a People so profitably employed, will as necessarily invite Others who are industrious or ingenious to partake of the Benefit.* That, from such a Concourse, which nothing but such a Commerce can create, *Villages, Towns, Cities, the Plenty, Power, and Prosperity of the mightiest*

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tiest States have arisen. That, from the Beginning of Time, no Instance can be shewn where such Causes have been unattended by the Consequences premised. That, Ireland is, of all Countries, the most happily disposed for the procuring, propagating, and perpetuating these Advantages to the latest Posterity. And that, to suppose Us possessed of this the CAPITAL CAUSE of Prosperity to other Nations, and yet deprived of the Benefits that have ever ensued, is to suppose Us a single Exception to Reason, to Nature, to Experience, and to the Universe, from the earliest of Ages to the End of Time.

LET no One, then, think that the above Calculations and Estimates
have

have been, in any Degree, dictated by a heated Imagination. All History is full of the quick and enormous Growth to which Wealth has arisen, when planted by the Arts and fostered by Commerce; whereof it may suffice to quote a recent Instance within our own Memory, and in our own Country.

BEFORE the Year 1709 the Balance of Trade, with respect to the Linen-Manufacture, lay always against *Ireland*. From that Time it was thought worthy of public Attention and Encouragement, and, having been planted, and taken Root, and grown nearly to Maturity in the Province of *Ulster*, this Capital Staple, now, supplies all our Inhabitants, and brings in a

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further Profit of One Million Yearly. From our own Experience it is therefore evident, that, were this single Branch equally planted and propagated in the other Three Provinces, it would add Three Million more to the annual Income of *Ireland*, forasmuch, as, our Home-Consumption being already deducted, the Product of every additional Hand, in this Way, would give a Surplus discharged from any Kind of Draw-back; and *England*, alone, would gladly take the yearly Value of Two Million for her own Consumption, and, of Two Million more for Exportation and Sale to her Colonies, &c. Neither would this deduct any Thing from our former Estimates and Expectations with respect to any other Art
or

or Manufacture; the Wheel alone employs Nine Hands in Ten, of all who are engaged in the Linen-Branch, it is the Instrument of every Age from Five Years to Five Score, it is the Companion of those whom Accidents or Infirmities have rendered incapable of other Society or Labour, and yet it employs our Female Hands alone, since our Men think the Office of an *Hercules* beneath them, and scorn to handle the Distaff of a Princess.

THE Prospect of so great an Encrease of this our national Staple, may not be very distant.

Mr. *Adderly*, with a truly Patriot Spirit, has successfully expended many Thousands of Pounds of his
own

own Substance, in establishing a Colony of Manufacturers, in a Part of the South, where the Linen-Branch and all other Crafts were, till then, unpractised and unknown.

Sir Richard Cox, by the living Sermon of his own Conduct, as well as by his distinguished Lecture on the Methods of advancing the Manufactures of *Ireland*, has largely contributed to the Interests of his Country. He has planted Art and Industry on the Banks of the River *Bandon*, and there established a Linen Factory of great Extent and good Example to his idle and ignorant Neighbours.

It may not be amiss, on this Occasion, to take Notice, that the
Two

Two Manufactures of Flax and Metals, are the Two grand Staples, throughout the World, whose Materials may be wrought to the highest Value and Perfection beyond their natural State, and that They, consequently, give Employment to the greatest Number of Hands.

THE Difference between Flax in the Stalk and when wrought, is, at a Medium, as One to Eight, and, often, as One to a Hundred, and, sometimes, as One to a Thousand, and greatly beyond. The Difference between Metal, in the Ore and when manufactured, bears nearly the same Proportion; insomuch, that the Value of the Material, in the one and the other, is almost sunk and absorbed in the Value of the

the Labour. And the Improvements that have, and may yet be made, toward further Excellence, by future Arts, leave the Profit, on the Manufacture of these Two Staples, without Bounds or Limitation.

It is further observable, that the Two Manufactures, of Linen and Metals, are not, like many precarious Articles of Luxury, subjected to the Starts or Transitions of Whim and Mode. Next to Food, they are the great Necessaries and Staples of Life. As they are capable of being wrought to every Taste and Degree of Fineness and Fashion; they supply the Poor and the Rich with Comfort, Convenience, and
Ele-

Elegance; and are, therefore, in universal Request, throughout the Earth.

ON this Account, it is greatly to be lamented, that, though our Profit on Metals might be equal to that on the Linen-Branch, though the Manufacture of Flax, as I observed before, almost solely engages the Hands of our Females, and leaves the Operation of Metals to the Bulk of our ablest Men, who must either stand idle or be employed therein. Though PROVIDENCE most plainly directs and invites Us to Prosperity through this Channel, by having prepared a plenteous Variety of Mines, with which every County of this Kingdom abounds. Though the poorer Natives of Ire-
N *land*

land are, naturally, ingenious, robust, patient of Toil and Hunger, satisfied with a little, and enabled, by these valuable Qualities, to carry the said Manufacture to its highest Perfection, and to undersell the World by the Cheapness of Labour. Yet, so unfortunate are We, or rather so remiss, that we lay no Hold on these Advantages that surround Us. That we yearly import, from wiser Countries, above a Hundred Thousand Pounds worth of Metals manufactured, for our Home-Consumption. That we shamefully rely on a Pack of feeble Spinsters for the Maintenance and Support of this Nation. And, that all the Pomp and Parade of *Ireland*, its Luxuries, its Equipages, its weighty Purfes, and weightier Buildings,

ings, at present, depend by a LINEN THREAD.

WHEN *Lewis*, called the grand, and the *greater Colbert* contrived to turn a poor, idle, impotent, and little People, into a rich, active, powerful, and great Nation; they did not leave the Business to the Option of the Natives; much less did they leave it to the Operations of Time and Chance, to the scattered Projects of Individuals, or to the Efforts of petty Patriots. They, first, examined, reformed, settled, and assured their Finances. They, next, retrenched the Pomp and Pride of State; they abridged all superfluous Cost and unnecessary Expence; that, out of Savings, hardly wrung from a poor and beggard People,

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they

they might make a Purchase of unbounded Value, of universal Repute, and of everlasting Endurance for the PLACE OF THEIR NATIVITY.

THEY, next issued Proclamations, whereby they offered and pressed Rewards upon All, who should promote, improve, or even propagate any Craft, or Manufacture, already established or practised within the Dominions of *France*.

THEY further issued Proclamations of higher Value and Encouragement to All, who, by any Contrivance or Invention, should strike out an Art or Craft that was hitherto unknown; or, which should give additional Value, Perfection, or Beauty.

Beauty to such as, already, were reputable and in Vogue.

THEY, again, appointed Rewards to such as, by any new Project, Scheme, Enterprize, Whim, or Adventure, should machinate or attempt any Thing extraordinary, or devious from the vulgar Track, for the Benefit of their Country or the Good of Mankind, however the same, in Effect, might fall short of the End proposed, provided the Conception was allowed to be ingenious and usefully intended.

AGAIN, they poured out the Remainder of their Fund, and sought other Resources, and strained their utmost Credit to invite, allure, and fascinate

fascinate all the Children of Art and Industry, the Plodding and the Inventive from other Countries and Climes; that such a Concourse of Geniuses, by gathering, coalescing, and concentring together, might make *France* as the Bowels and Heart of the World, from which, Action, Art, Industry, Craft, Contrivance, Ingenuity, Expertness, and Science might flow.

AND, lastly, They condescended to solicit and apply for Aid to all the Persons of any Opulence or Consideration in the Realm, toward the Establishment of Schools and Academies in every Province; where Masters most approved throughout the Earth, for their Excellence and
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Pre-eminence in their several Mysteries and Occupations, were appointed to preside; that all foreign Arts being naturalized in *France*, and all new Offsprings of Genius begotten therein, they might procreate and perpetuate a Succession of the like Progeny, from Generation to Generation, to the End of Time.

HAVING thus provided, within the Region of *France*, whatever the World required of Necessaries, Comforts, and Conveniences, as well as of Elegance, Taste, and Fashion. And having, as I observed before, further opened a Passage, to the Ingress and Egress of the said World, for the Dispensation of the said Productions; We ought not greatly to admire at the important and fearful
Consequences

Consequences that instantly ensued. The Ball shoots not with greater Rapidity from the Cannon to its Mark, the Lightning comes not with greater Swiftneſs from the Eaſt to the Weſt, than the Cauſes pre-miſed produced their Attendant Effects; and, had not *Lewis* happily miſtaken the Period of his Conſummation; had he not lavished the Infant-products of growing Art and Industry on the Works of Oſtentation, Pomp, and Pride; had he not happily miſconceived that his Title to univerſal Monarchy, was aſſured by his Power before he made the Attempt; a little more Time, a very little Patience had placed him quite ſuperior to all Oppoſition; and the ſurrounding Nations, humbly conſcious

scious of their own Impotence, had successively offered their Necks to his Yoke.

As no Nation, in any Age, under any Government, made equal Advances, with that of *France* under *Colbert*, we ought not to flatter ourselves with the speedy Prospect, even of a proportionable Prosperity, in favour of our little Country; though it is indisputable that, in all Countries, wherever the like Causes have in any Degree preceded, the like Events in the same Degree have ever ensued.

BUT, if *Lewis* and *Colbert* were not mistaken in their Scheme. If they conceived, agreeable to Nature

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and Experience, that the Issue could not but attest the Propriety of their Expectations; their Example will teach Us how far we ought to hope.

How many have we among us, who retrench the Superfluities of their Train and Table, in order to make a Purchase for this their NATIVE PLACE? Where are our national Establishments of Schools, Seminaries, and Academies? Where be even our Granaries for the saving of the Bread of Life? Alas, the *Joseph* of *Egypt* hath not yet been in *Ireland*.

TRUTH and Justice, however, constrain me to confess that, our
Parliament,

Parliament, for many Years past, have been attentive to our Interests, and have, by many Premiums and Incitements, planted Art and Manufacture around our Coasts, the only Place wherein they are capable of any permanent Root, without an INLAND NAVIGATION. Our present Parliament, I repeat it, by their late Rewards and Encouragements to Industry and the Arts, have been successfully and highly beneficial to this Nation; and though Miscarriages have sometimes happened through Imposition or Misapplication, the happy Influence hath extended further than They might look for, in spiriting up our Natives to unaccustomed Action, Emulation, and Invention; and in alluring Foreigners,

reigners, with the Prospect of equal Bounty, to import to Us the Crafts not yet known, or not established in this Kingdom.

A few Instances may serve to shew what I have advanced on this Head.

WITHIN these few Months, a Company of foreign Glafs-makers came to *Dublin*, and, as it were by Art-magic, have already prepared the requisite Apparatus of Buildings, Materials, &c. and now carry on the Business to a great Value and Extent.

WELL skilled, as I am informed, in all the Branches of their Art,
They

They yet chuse to confine themselves to Plate and Window-glass, as it is a Manufacture never before attempted in this Kingdom ; and they offer Securities, to any Amount, for supplying *Ireland* with all its Home-demands, large Demands, as I conceive, since even Looking-glasses, the most durable Species of the Manufacture, are yet as frail and as subject to Accidents as the Fair-forms that they retain so many Hours in a Morning.

SOME Attempts have already been made, from Abroad, to deter this People from settling among Us ; but, whatever may be done to promote their Establishment here, I
hope

hope we shall have no Hand in driving them away.

IN THE Year 1755, the Proprietors of the *Drumcondra* Manufactory applied to Parliament for Encouragement. Their Art was beautiful and wholly new, and *Ireland*, alone, had the Honour of the Invention. It was a Method of impressing Linens from Metal-plates, whereby, Light and Shade were added to the Exactness of Design and gave an Elegance unprecedented and truly surprizing.

OUR Parliament acknowledged their Merit and made large Offers, on Condition that they would engage to continue in the Kingdom :
But,

But, I was grieved that larger Offers had been made from Abroad; They were soon spirited away, and I never more expected to see that Art revive in *Ireland*.

BUT, how agreeable was my Disappointment when I lately beheld the *Leixlip* Factory carried on, by *Dixon*, and Partners, in a Manner surpassing any Excellence to which I conceived the former Art might arrive by Time and further Invention.

THESE People have extended the usual Drawings of Flowers, Fruit, and Foliage, to the Representation of Animals in their natural Delineations and Colourings, and, even to the Expression of Portrait and History-

tory-painting, as also of Landscape and Architecture in due Proportion and Perspective. They have further discovered an admirable Secret for fixing the several Colours, in such a Manner, that they endure the Bleach and wash without Change or Decay. And, lastly, They have contrived Machines, each of which will work off 300 Yards of Linens thus impressed in a Day; insomuch that the Cheapness of Sale, through the Quickness of Execution, leaves the Demand for this Manufacture without Limitation.

MR. WYSE, of *Waterford*, having expended near twenty thousand Pounds of his own Substance in an Apparatus of Mills and Machineries for the Manufacture of Metals, was rewarded

rewarded, last Session, with a Parliamentary Bounty of £.4000.

THIS, I fear, has encouraged him to stretch his Views and his Enterprize beyond the Compass and Power of any Individual.

He has formed a daring Scheme of establishing a Colony of Three Hundred foreign Artificers of Hard-Ware at *Waterford*, who, with their Apprentices, shall comprize all the Branches of Metal-Works. He has already introduced many, and engaged many others, and has actually built upward of Thirty Houses with Shops and other Appendâges for their Accommodation.

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WHAT

WHAT the Issue will be, whether the Ruin of *Wyse*, or the Advancement of his Country, Time alone can determine. I should grieve at the First, I should rejoice at the Latter; but I need neither Time nor Deliberation to affirm, that a few Men, like this, would make a Nation.

I CHOSE the above Instances from the *Three* Manufactures of *Linen*, *Metals*, and even of *Glass*, though, comparatively, of small Import, as they are *Three Staples* in universal Demand throughout the commercial World. And, should this Paper have the Advantage of coming into the Hands of any Governor, or Legislator, any of Power
and

and Will to promote the Prosperity of *Ireland*, I earnestly beseech him to animadvert, a while, on the few following Remonstrances. ---- *That the Enterprize and first Settlement, of any national Manufacture, must be attended with great Expence, and, during its Minority, is of small and very precarious Profit. That such Manufactures require extraordinary Reinforcements, in Proportion to the Rivalships with which they have to contend. That no national Undertaking hath yet been carried into due Execution and Extent, without a national Fund and Aid for the Purpose. And that, if our Linen-Fabric had not rose on Parliamentary Pillars, we would have lost the Yearly Million which we now enjoy.*

LET us however suppose our Arts in great Forwardness, our NAVIGATION already compleated, and *Ireland*, thereby, possessed of an additional Revenue of Twelve Million Yearly. The following Questions may, thereon, occur. Will not this Profusion of Wealth be more than the Inhabitants can duly enjoy? Will it not introduce Luxury? And will not Luxury introduce Idleness? And will not Idleness again reduce Us to our accustomed Poverty?

THE *Spaniards*, before the Conquests of *Mexico* and *Peru*, were, comparatively, a numerous, industrious, and thriving People; and the Product of their Manufactures was

was nearly threefold what it is at present. But *Spain*, upon the opening of her Gold and Silver Mines, sat, like a Lady in State, the attendant World worked for her; and, while she lost, at once, her Inclination to former Labour, and her Knowledge of former Arts, her annual Income was drained, as through a Sieve, into other Countries, and nothing remains with her, of that Immensity of Treasure, save the Luxury, Pride, and Indolence, and Ignorance that it produced.

Spain, in this Case, reminds me of a certain Mechanic who found a large Crock of Money within an old Wall. The Implements of his Trade were instantly cast aside, Attendance and Equipage were bespoken,

spoke, Banquetting and Riot ensued, and he had no Notion of sparing what he thought could never come to an End. When the first Hurry of his Joys had subsided, he found himself uneasy, as out of his proper Element; and a single Year convinced him that his Treasure, though great, was not inexhaustible. In this Mood, a poor Traveller applied to him for Charity, and he carelessly threw him a Parcel of Guineas; you are mistaken, Sir, cried the Man, this is Gold that you give me. Keep it, keep it, honest Friend, replied our Mechanic, the sooner my Money is out, the sooner I shall return to my old and honest Occupation.

Now, had this Tradesman earned this extraordinary Treasure by
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the Product of his Ingenuity and the Sweat of his Brow, no one living can suppose he would have squandered it in like manner. On the contrary, he would have instructed his Family and Dependents in all the Crafts and Mystery of such a lucrative Employment; and he would, to his dying Day, have preserved the Source open, from which his Prosperity originally flowed.

HERE, then, lies the Difference between *Spain* and other Countries. The Wealth of *Spain* was not the Off-spring either of Industry or of Art, it had no Relation thereto, it had no Connection therewith, and therefore proved an irreconcilable Enemy to the one and to the other: But the Wealth, that is the Off-spring

spring of Industry and Art, ever did and ever will procreate and propagate a Progeny like to the Parents, by which itself was begotten.

WHEN Men or Nations acquire Wealth by War, by Rapine, by Accident, &c. They are tempted to place their future Dependence on the like Means; they, thereby, lose the Knowledge and Habit of procuring Riches or Subsistence in any other Way; and, when such precarious Funds fail, they are inevitably reduced to Want and Beggary. When Men or Nations acquire Wealth by Industry and the Arts, they, also, are taught and prompted to continue, cultivate, and enlarge the Means from whence they derived their Prosperity, a Prosperity
to

to which neither Period nor Bounds have yet been appointed. Avarice may pile, Robbery may plunder, hidden Treasures may be found, new Mines may be opened, the Gamester may win Cash, the Conqueror may win Kingdoms; but, such Means of acquiring Wealth are, as a Vessel of Water poured out on the High-Way, you, at once, see the Commencement and Determination of the Stream. While the Treasure, that is acquired by Industry and the Arts, arises, proceeds, and continues to be supplied by a never failing Source, the only living Fountain from whence the Wealth of this World must naturally, and necessarily, and eternally flow.

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It yet remains to be apprehended, that an additional Revenue, of Twelve Millions yearly, would be more than our Inhabitants could duly enjoy. But, let us not be overcome by our Fears on this Head. The Number of Inhabitants was ever known to encrease with the Wealth of a Nation, and Mouths are rarely wanted where a Feast is prepared. The many Thousands that would thereby be retained in this Kingdom, the growing Offspring of those Thousands, the Encouragement that such Wealth would give to Matrimony and Procreation, with the Multitudes that would thereby be attracted from Abroad, could not fail, in a few Years, of accumulating our Numbers to,
at

at least, Six Million; a Number, which the Product of our Lands, in their present unimproved State, could plentifully sustain, provided that Product was no otherwise applied. Now, Forty Shillings *per* Head, the Proportion of Twelve Millions to Six Million of Inhabitants, may not be deemed, on second Thoughts, such a mighty Incumbrance; and should any Part thereof be in Danger of Stagnation or Waste, it might be worthily realized, in the fencing and manuring of Lands; in Gardens, Orchards, Ponds, Plantations; in Buildings, Plate, Furniture, Gems, Libraries, Statues, Paintings; and even in foreign Settlements, Purchases, Loans, Lodgments, &c.

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THUS a Revenue or yearly Income of Twelve Millions *Sterling*, daily growing and well assured, and not subject by Nature to Waste or Decay, would, surely, be a very desirable, and a very sufficient Subsistence for this Nation. An Acquisition, like this, certainly merits something more than mere Wishes and Indolence at our Hands; since it would be more than an Equivalent for the Purchase of the Whole Kingdom, for all the Labours of our Lives, and for the utmost Efforts of our Posterity during several Generations. It is, therefore, of the worthiest Consequence, to inquire at what Rate, or at what Price this Acquisition might be made.

WHEN

WHEN *Hannibal* shewed his Countrymen, from the Tops of the *Alps*, the luxuriant Regions of *Italy* expanded before them, He did not promise the Gift without proposing the Conditions, his Terms were WIN AND ENJOY.

BUT, if the Army of *Hannibal*, when fired by such a Prospect, with eagerness embraced the doubtful and deadly Conditions, how much more instant and eager ought we to be in attempting an Acquisition, where we have no Death to fear nor Doubts to encounter; an Acquisition, of infinitely greater Worth to the World, than That of all the Conquerors that ever were created; an Acquisition that gives to all Men
without

without deducting from Any; that serves to propagate not to depopulate, to multiply not to destroy.

LET Us sit down, then, and count the Costs by which this Enterprize may be accomplished; let us see at what Price this mighty Purchase might be made.

THE present Rates of Purchases, throughout this Kingdom, at a Medium, may be estimated to 25 Years, and 25 Years Purchase of twelve Million amounts to the principal Sum of 300 Million Sterling. Could *Ireland*, therefore, procure so mighty a Sum for the Purpose, She would undoubtedly make a worthy and gainful Bargain; since Nations are
not,

not, like Individuals, mortal ; since, in 25 Years, she would receive her full Principal, and afterward retain her yearly 12 Million for ever.

As 300 Million, however, is a Sum, for the raising of which, *Ireland* may not have Means at Home or Credit Abroad ; we will compassionate her Inability, we will abate of this Demand, we will ask no more than a single Year's Purchase, and, in lieu of the principal Sum of 12 Million, we will assure Her of a yearly Return of the like Sum for ever.

Ireland cannot be so infatuated as to decline this Bargain. For the compassing of such a Purchase, all
Funds

Funds ought to be emptied, and all Resourfes sought. The Wealthy should pour out the whole of their Abundance, the Widows of the Church and Army contribute their Mites, and, like the *Israelites* in the Wilderness, this Nation should divest itself of all its Plate, Gems, Jewels, Toys, Trinkets, and Ornaments, toward the compleating of this *Tabernacle* to the GOD of Benevolence, of Honesty, of Industry, and the Arts.

IF, yet, we should feel a Reluctance in parting with our Finery; we must venture, in such Case, to make a further Abatement; and, it is conceived, that a present Advance of a single Million, being but one Month's

Month's Purchase of the yearly Income proposed thereby, may, with Time, Contrivance, and good OEconomy, suffice to accomplish this beneficent Undertaking: But, if, even this small Proportion should be grudged or with-held; we must, then, cast about for other Means and Expedients; and we will try what may be done toward this great Acquisition, without any Loss or Deduction from our present Revenue, and without a Pennyworth of Damage or Expence to the Nation.

IN a Computation, which I have made of the Excavation of our GRAND CANAL, I find that the cutting and carrying off of 70,000 square and solid Yards will, at a

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Medium,

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Medium, be an ample Allowance for each Mile, and, therefore, that the Excavation of 3,640,000 cubic Yards would compleat the digging of the Grand Canal from one End to the Other.

I also find, on a further Computation, that a Number of Canals tantamount to Twelve, such as the GRAND CANAL, would, nearly, finish the Navigation of the whole Kingdom, from the *Shannon* to *Dublin* by the Southern, and, again, from the *Shannon* to *Dublin* by a Northern Line. From the present grand Line to *Waterford* by the *Barrow*, and, on the other Hand to *Drogheda* by the *Boyne*. Across the *Shannon* to the Sea at *Galway* by the

the *Suck*, and again from the Heads of the *Shannon*, to the Heads of the River *Earn*, and thence to the Sea near *Ballyshannon*. From Lough *Neagh* to *Derry* on the one Hand, and again from Lough *Neagh* to *Newry* and *Belfast* on the Other. With the several Junctions, Communications, and collateral Branches, &c. And I find, that the whole Excavation of these Canals would amount to no more than about 43,680,000 solid Yards.

Now, as one Man can, with ease, cut and carry out two solid or cubic Yards, at an Average, every Day, it follows that 21,840,000 Men make the Number precisely requisite for digging the national Navigation;

and it follows, as surely, that 80 thousand of our idle Hands, if employed therein, would, in much less than a Year, accomplish the Business, and might amuse themselves on the Water the Remainder of the Term.

O, could I inspire the People, of this listless and dejected Country, with any Spirit of Patriotism! With any Spirit even of Avarice! With that Desire of Prosperity, to themselves and their Descendants, that is, in any measure, adequate to a Work, so fully pregnant with Blessings and Beneficence: Should all other Means and Expedients fail, our very Women with Kitchen Implements, our Infants with the Instruments of Amusement,

musement, and even our Ladies, with Bodkins to dig, and Thimbles to carry out, would in a few Years, compleat this mighty Affair; though I have often heard it affirmed to be impracticable and impossible, through a Succession of many Centuries, to the joint Efforts of the Nation.

PEOPLE, of narrow Hearts and abridged Understandings, look on every Thing as stupendous, and even as impossible, that is not within the Compass of private Operation; not considering that a Work, of national Interest, ought to be mighty and extensive, in Proportion to the End proposed, and in Proportion to the Powers that are called to the Execution. And yet, I am justly bold in affirming

affirming that there are several Individuals, of this Nation, Who, in less than half a Century, would singly be able to finish this very Work, that is proposed to derive and perpetuate universal Prosperity to a whole People.

SUPPOSE a private Husbandman to have Twenty in Family, All of whom he is obliged to maintain, after a Sort, though he has no profitable Employment for half of the Number. Suppose a Person of unquestioned Credit, should come to this Husbandman, and require from him the Loan of his 20th Hand, for the Space of 7 Months in any particular Year, or for the Space of one Month during a Succession of 7 Years,

Years, assuring him, at the same Time, that out of the Labour of this 20th Hand, within the said small Term of 7 Months, He would raise to him and his whole Family, an ample Fortune for ever. Here, if this Husbandman had ever been accustomed to think at all, He could not take Time for Hesitation or Syllogizing in order to be able to return an Answer. It would instantly occur to him that he might probably be a Gainer, but could not possibly be a Loser by such a Bargain. That this 20th Hand was a useless Burden upon Him. And, that, if He would not lend him on the Terms proposed, He must banish or maintain him in Idleness, or permit him to beg or steal from the rest of the Family.

He

He would therefore, with Thanks and Joy, instantly close with the Propofal. And I fay to my Country, **THINK AND DO LIKEWISE.**

ALL Governors of Nations, who regard the Body or Mind, the Health or Morals of their People, will appoint them fome Kind of Action and Employment, though for the fole and wholefome End of Exercife alone.

WOULD the General of an Army keep his Soldiers in Strength, and Health, and Discipline, He muft march and countermarch, encamp and decamp, open and fill Trenches, caft up and level Mounds, with the
fingle

single View of preserving their Minds from Mutiny, and their Bodies from Sloth. And it is reported of *Diogenes*, who boasted himself superior to the Wants and Cravings of Mankind, that having no better Employment, he used daily to roll his Tub up and down Hill, in order to give himself an Appetite for his Roots and Water.

It is evident, therefore, that, though no other End should be obtained by the proposed Navigation; though OMNIPOTENCE should send his Angels, again, to fill up the Channels; or that the Powers of this World should join in an Injunction prohibiting all the Living from passing therein: Our Brethren so
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employed would, however, be improved, in Health, and Action, and Industry, and Honesty, and, thereby, rendered the more capable of an Undertaking of greater Benefit, if such may be found.

THIS is granted, All must say. But what, say some, will become of the many Thousands wrung, for the Purpose, from an almost Bankrupt and beggar'd Nation? Should our Hopes prove abortive, should any Possibility prevent the promised Success, are We not utterly undone by such a Disbursement? Will not so many Hundreds of thousands of Pounds, as must be raised for defraying the Wages of such Labourers,
be

be for ever sunk and lost to this distressed and needy Country?

Nor a Penny, I reply. No, not the hundred thousandth Part of that Penny will, thereby, be lost or deducted from *Ireland*. All, All will be returned to Her, and will be actually enjoyed by Her, in a much more advantageous, and beneficial, Manner than any other Property of which we can suppose Her to continue in the quiet and confirmed Possession. The Money thus distributed, among the listless, needy, craving, and querulous Members of her Family, will prove as Cordials and Restoratives to a languid Constitution. Nothing will evaporate, not a Particle thereof will transpire; but

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altogether on the contrary, by promoting Circulation and removing Obstructions, will communicate fresh Action and Energy to the whole System. Need I further affirm that the Money, so expended and circulated among Ourselves, instead of losing any Article of its own Weight or Value, will effectually add to the real Wealth of this Nation, by promoting and sustaining the several Crafts and Craftsmen whose Products will be required for the Food and Cloathing of the said Labourers; while the said Craftsmen again, will transmit the said Money to such other Sons of Industry as may be employed in supplying the Materials of their Manufactures, &c. &c.

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WHEREFORE should I longer hesitate, or fear to speak the Truth? The Money which our Absentees take from us; the Money which we transmit to foreign Countries, in lieu of Luxuries whose Poisons and Debauch we import, is, as so much Blood, drained from the Heart and Vitals of this Country, which can never return, and, whose Loss must assuredly bring Decay and Diffolution, unless quickly supplied by other Means and Resources: But the Money, that is circulated by Industry among ourselves, is as the Life-Blood retained within the Body, which, while it prompts and animates to Action and Exertion, administers Growth and Nourishment throughout

out the whole Frame. And, thus, it is as clear as Light, to all who chuse to see, that the Money, so expended on our INLAND NAVIGATION, (absurdly supposing that no better Consequence should ensue) would bring Gain but no Loss, Advantage but no Detriment, and Prosperity but no manner of Distress upon IRELAND.

SUCH, therefore, are not the Expences, but such are the Benefits from which our thinking Enemies, or our thoughtless Zealots, would save this NATION.

ONCE upon a Time, I remember not when or where, there lived a Nobleman of great Wisdom,
Worth

Worth and Fortune, and, in his Neighbourhood, a poor Houſholder, of an exceeding honeſt and good Heart, but, whoſe Intellects were not the moſt clearly enlightened.

THE Nobleman had ſeveral Ponds, Lakes and Fountains in his Gardens and Fields. The poor Houſholder had but one Spring-Well in his Bleach-Yard, which, however, with ſome little Prevention by Damms and Encloſures, might have proved very ſufficient for his Family and his Cattle.

Now, Nature had formed a remarkable Declivity from the poor Man's Bleach-Yard to the rich Man's Garden, by which Means,
ſhould

should any new Springs be discovered, should additional Water be imported by the Industry of the Family, or, should extraordinary Showers fall down from Heaven, the rich Man, of Necessity, received the Advantage, for, whatever was superfluous to the Occasions of this poor Family, flowed to him by a natural and easy Descent.

THIS poor Householder had a very large Family of Children, and, like the Generality of Parents, was ever fondest of those who least merited his Favour. Several, of these his darling Sons, were ingenious in many Contrivances for dissipating this Family-Fountain. Some provided Scoops and Engines that played to
a great

a great Elevation, whereby, this Water was turned into a Mist, and so carried off by the passing Wind. Others imported a Variety of Fuel, and, by the Means of Fire-Engines, caused great Quantities to evaporate. While others, again, were daily indefatigable in draining this Spring to the very Bottom; with this Water they filled their several Buckets, and, were hugely delighted with the Employment of carrying them to the rich Man's Garden, where they emptied them into Ponds that already overflowed; insomuch, that, if that wise and worthy Nobleman, in Charity, as well as Policy, had not issued some wholesome Orders for the Supplies of said Spring, he might, in Time, have lost the Benefits which he, himself,

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derived from it; and this poor, though silly, Family must have perished by Thirst.

IN the mean while, no one could appear more solicitous, than our simply-frugal Householder, for the Savings of his Water. It never entered into his Head that the Means recited could occasion the least Diminution. But, when such of his Children as were engaged in his domestic Affairs, when such as were intent on preserving good Order in his Family, when such as were employed in preventing Encroachments on his Spring, when such as were busied and earnest in enclosing or carrying Supplies to his said Water, when any of these, I say, being overtoiled

vertoiled with Labour, required a necessary Draught; could he retrench their Cup, he gloried in his Policy, nor once reflected, that whatever his Family drank, passed through their Bodies, and, being strained and philtrated by the Sand and Gravel, returned to its native Fountain as pure as ever, and without the Loss of a single Drop.

IN Process of Time, however, another Householder arose, equal in Goodness, but superior in Understanding to his Predecessor. He perceived the Vices, Errors, and Follies of his Family; but, some Parts of their Misconduct he judged to be incorrigible, and others he deem'd it dangerous or very

T 2 trouble-

troublesome to reform. Wherefore, instead of retrenching the Diffipations of their Fountain, he ordered a Few of the lower Servants to dig, till they should find and lay open another Spring.

AN Order, so new, so important, and so surprizing, occasioned much Commotion and Debate in the Family. Some argued, that the Soil was so soft it would never stand cutting, and others affirmed it to be so hard that it could not be cut; but, however they might differ in Manner and Form, they all joined in laughing heartily at their Houholder and his Counfel, and agreed in concluding that the Project was impracticable. Till, with little
Time,

Time, and less Labour, the Water broke forth, as well to the Advantage as Shame of the Opponents.

LATELY, when I related this Story to some Company, a Gentleman, remarkable for often discerning more than ever was meant, told me it was a Riddle that he could readily solve. That the *Nobleman* represented the Government of *Great-Britain*, and the *poor Householder*, the quondam Government of *Ireland*. That the *Bleach-Yard* was the Staple of our *Linen-Manufacture*, from whence the principal Wealth of this Nation flowed. That the Contrivances for dissipating this Family Fountain, express'd the Wantonness of those who extravagantly lavish'd
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what was very hardly got. That the Fire-Engines were the Coals yearly imported to *Ireland*; and the *Bucket-Carriers* such *Absentees* as unsparingly drained the Income of their poor and needy Country to fill foreign Coffers that already overflowed. And, lastly, that the new Householder represented the present Patriot-Parliament, who, by projecting and promoting an INLAND NAVIGATION, had opened the new and capacious Spring from whence the Prosperity of this Nation is expected to flow.

BUT, how far this Gentleman might be right in his Conjectures, I leave wholly to the Reader.

ERRORS

ERRORS are not always personal, they are often communicative, and are, sometimes, known to be of national Extent. An Opinion has long and largely obtained in *Ireland*, that *England* does not wish us well, and this Mistake gained such Ground among us, that many of our Placemen, and Expectants, believed they could not better pay their Court to a *British* Ministry, than by discountenancing and discouraging the Sciences, Arts, and Manufactures of this Nation; like those, of whom our Saviour prophesied, that, while they persecuted their Brethren, they should imagine they did their God true Service.

OFFENCES,

OFFENCES, no Doubt, have been mutually given; and little Jealousies will arise between the dearest Friends; but such Jealousies are, rather, Instances of Affection than Malice, and Nothing can effect a real Breach between us, till *England* shall have Reason to apprehend our Power, or We to apprehend her Intention of crushing us; and, neither the one nor the other can possibly come to pass, till *England* grows absurdly deaf and blind to her own Interests, or till we see an *Irish Fleet* sole Regent of the Ocean.

THE most malicious of Monkeys would not lop the Cat's Paw by which he is used to draw his Chest-nuts

nuts from the Embers. If the Fox is acknowledged a Lover of Poultry, we cannot suppose him to wish Destruction to the Eggs by which they are to be produced. In short the Lion would sooner confine his Purveyor, the little Jackall, who directs the lordly Beast to his Prey, than *Britain* would check any Article or Off-spring of *Irisb* Art or Industry that does not immediately interfere with her own capital Staple.

LET no One, then, absurdly surmise or insinuate, that *England*, in favour of this Man, or that Family, of this Town, or that Corporation, would suppress her own Interests in any national Undertaking or Manufacture of ours. We may as wisely

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ly suppose that she would refuse to admit a plenteous River through her Dominions, lest it should render some Springs less useful or conspicuous, by which a few of her Kettles used to be supplied.

ON the contrary, since the Year Sixteen Hundred and Forty One, we must acknowledge that, in most of the Transactions between us, in many private and public Charities, Grants, Contributions, and Encouragements, from the Peasant to the Peer, and from the Peer to the Prince, *England* has been truly friendly and beneficent to *Ireland*. That, from her Council and her Throne, she ceases not to exhort us to every Act and every Art that
can

can be proposed for our Prosperity. That her Favour has distinguished us, from every Nation, by an Immunity from all Duties on our capital Staple ; and that the Persons of her royal House, neither wear nor admit Linen of any other Fabric.

THUS favoured as we are by *England*, her Colony, and her Offspring, descended from the same Stock, born and bred under the Influence of the same Constitution, with the same Sense of Religion and Spirit of Liberty, we are a Part of herself, her Flesh, and her Bone. Attached to her, by every Tye that is interesting or endearing, it is equally our Duty and Advantage to

promote her Power and Pre-eminence, without Exception or Limitation; and it is mutually the Duty and Advantage of *England* to cherish and protect, to permit and encourage every Branch of Business in *Ireland*, that does not essentially clash with her own Interest. Whether any such can be, whether any Species of *Irish* Manufacture would not mediately or immediately be beneficial to *England*, is a Point which it will better become us to yield than debate, till Time and Experience shall undeceive her.

THAT BEING who preserves Order in Heaven and on Earth, by a due and proportionable Subordination of his Creatures, hath provided for the
endless

endless Amity of *England* and of *Ireland*, by taking away the Possibility of Rivalship between them. *Ireland* can aid but cannot oppose; and *England* can protect but can never think of crushing the principal Support of her own Power and Prosperity. Should we provoke Her, should we fly from Her, as *Jacob* fled from the House of his Father-in-law; should *England* also, like *Laban*, be tempted to pursue and take Vengeance upon Us; She will finally, like *Laban*, be compelled to say. *These Daughters are my Daughters, and these Children are my Children, and these Cattle are my Cattle, and All that are here are mine; and what now can I do unto these my Daughters, or unto the Children*

Children which they have born?

But, indeed, we can never forego or forsake *England*, till She, herself, ceases to be a free and humane People, till her Tyranny shall become so bloody, and her Burdens so insupportable, that we shall be compelled to cry for Aid to the Despotism of her Neighbours, and stretch forth our Necks to some gentler Yoke. Till that Day (ever Distant, as I trust) shall arrive; should *England* take Umbrage at our quarrelsome Disposition, should She think us capable of placing our Affiance in any other Power or Protection upon Earth; We are ready to say Her as *Peter* said to his Lord; *Where else should we betake us, or to whom should we go? For Thou hast*

hast the Words of true Religion and Liberty. We are a Kingdom annexed to her Crown. We are, in many Articles, dependent on her Constitution. We must consequently rise or fall, as She mounts or declines. Her Strength is our Strength. Her Power is our only Protection. We can no Way, become considerable, but by partaking of her Glories; and the Rise and the Meridian of her Glory is at Hand.

For this Purpose, at this Period, Heaven hath sent her a MINISTER, who hath shewn her the great Inheritance to which She is appointed. He hath opened the Eyes of *Britain* to the Consequences of her Situation.

Situation. He hath taught Her to reflect that, without a Naval Pre-eminence, She cannot be safe, and, without Commerce, that her Naval Power cannot be supported. He hath persuaded her to divest herself of her stately Robes and Ornaments, and to assume the active Garb of a Trader, and a Tar. He hath convinced Her, by recent Proofs of ever glorious Memorial, that her Honour is, therein, annexed to her Interests, and that a Sail-yard is the surest Sceptre of her Dignity and Dominion. He hath given Her to understand, that UNIVERSAL INFLUENCE is UNIVERSAL MONARCHY. That such Influence is desirable, to a free and brave People, for the Godlike Dispensation

penfation of Benefits alone. That the Bonds of Beneficence were never caft aside. That one Triumph of the *British* Flag is more available for this Purpofe, than the Conqueft of the four Continents. That the Regency of the Ocean to a free and juft Arbitrator, would prove to be the Regency of all Lands beneath the Moon. And that *Britain*, by fuch an Influence, would not poife the contefted Ballance of *Europe*, alone; but would hold the great Beam of Juftice and Truth, by which the World would demand to be weighed at her Pleafure.

BUT WHILE the Day of *Britain* arifes and We rejoice in her Light; let us not be blind or averfe

to the only Path that can lead
Us to her Service, or our own Prosperity.

I have evidently shewn, and repeatedly demonstrated that a universal Navigation, throughout this Kingdom, may be easily, and speedily, and profitably accomplished, without a single Penny of Expence to the Nation.

THOUGH no One can dispute what I have affirmed on this Head, old Prejudices will yet arise, and old Ideas occur; and People, like Parrots, will be apt to repeat the trite though unmeaning *Terms of Difficulty and Cost.*

It

It may be worth a few Lines more to silence this Battery.

READER, were it propos'd that an ample Fortune should be settled on You and Your's, upon this simple Condition, *that You should muster all the Money you possibly could, and remove it from one Pocket into the Other,* I ask, would You reject the Proposal? You answer, No. Do not then reject, on the Part of your Country, what you would readily and joyfully accept on your Own.

ALL the Pockets in this Nation, are the Pockets of the Nation. The Money required, for defraying the

X 2 Expences

Expences of our Navigation, was once in these Pockets. If our Parliament are pleased to restore it, pray, where is the Prejudice? Who has a Right to complain? If the Sum, so restored, is distributed among our Labourers, and by them, again, given in lieu of Food and Raiment, it is circulated but not lost, it moves but continues among Us. If, by the Means thereof, our GREAT WORK goes forward; if this Kingdom is, thereby, opened, from Sea to Sea, and Port to Port, for the Admission of Commerce, Industry, Arts, Plenty, and Prosperity. Then will an ample Fortune be settled on *Ireland*, on the simple Condition above proposed, of transferring the said Money from Man to Man,

Man, of removing it from one Pocket
into the Other.

SUCH as was the Prescription for
the *Leprosy of Naaman*, just such is
the Prescription for the *Poverty of
Ireland*. WASH AND BE
CLEAN. DIG AND BE
RICH.

IN the mean Time, let no par-
ticular Patron, of this or that
Branch of our Navigation, repine
at the Preference given in Point of
Time to Another. Some must open
the Pass for the Admission of
Others, and the leading of One is
the best Assurance that can be
given for the Following of the
Other.

WHILE

WHILE *Esau* and *Jacob* struggled for Precedence from the Womb, had not One of them prevailed, the Contention must have proved equally fatal to Both. But *Esau* served as a Harbinger to the Birth of his Brother. Such will the *Southern Line* be to it's *Rival of the North*, and the Latter may yet obtain the Blessing from it's Predecessor.

WHEN the Business, so laden with every Blessing, shall be accomplished. When our Canals, from County to County, and Coast to Coast, shall be covered with foreign and domestic Commerce.
When

When their Banks shall be widely spread with Cities, Towns, Villages, Seats, Granaries and Gardens. When the intermediate Quarters shall entertain the Eye with Herds, Flocks, and Deer, fruitful Hills, and yellow Harvests. When Idleness shall have resigned his ancient Inheritance to Action, and Art shall have succeeded to Ignorance, throughout the Land. When the present listless Silence, that reigns over *Ireland*, shall give Place to the Noise of Wheels, Reels, Looms, and Hammers, the Sounds of Industry and Songs of Joy. When Foreigners shall enquire, how came all This about? Who planned this vast Scene of Plenty and Prosperity? Who projected, promoted,
or

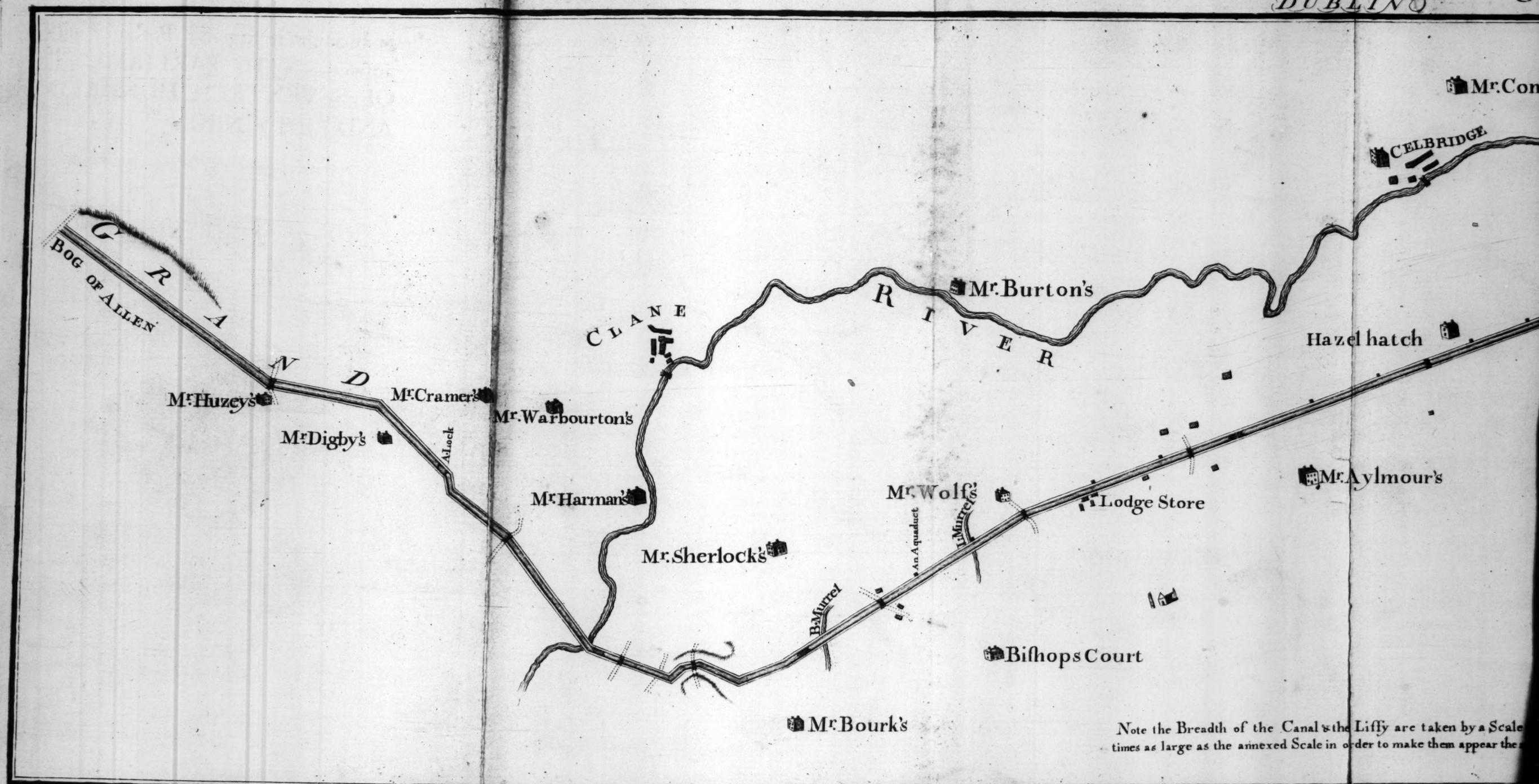
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or brought it to pass? Posterity will
answer——THE PARLIAMENT
OF SEVENTEEN HUNDRED
AND FIFTY NINE.

F I N I S.



of Part
 PLAN of the GRAND CANAL leading from the CITY of DUBLIN to the RIVER SHANNON together
 DUBLIN



IN to the RIVER SHANNON together with the Survey of the RIVER LIFFY from the place where the CANAL crosses it to DUBLIN

